

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 207963

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207963

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. WE HAVE NEVER RECEIVED RABBI SCHNEIER'S COMPLETE ITINERARY. HE AND PARTY ARE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN MOSCOW TUESDAY, AUGUST 24 AT 5:55 P.M. ON SU 154 FROM BUCHAREST. WE DID NOT, OF COURSE, SUGGEST TO HIM THAT HE WOULD BE MET. THEY PLAN TO DEPART MOSCOW AUGUST 29 TO LVOV ON SU 829, THEN PROCEED TO UZHGOROD BY TRAIN.
2. THE NEW YORK CITY POLICY ASKED USUN ABOUT SOVIET PRESS REACTION TO THE JDL ARRESTS. PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED.
3. SOUNDINGS HERE INDICATE THAT THINGS ARE UP IN THE AIR ON KOREA AND THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO WAIT UNTIL THE DUST SETTLES BEFORE COMING IN WITH A FORMAL REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE. REACTION AT THIS POINT TO ASKING FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH KUZNETSOV WOULD BE NEGATIVE. SITUATION COULD, OF COURSE, CHANGE QUICKLY AND WE WILL TAKE ANOTHER SOUNDING ON MONDAY.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 207963

4. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PASSING THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO

WELIHOZKIY: JANE ARRIVED SAFELY THURSDAY EVENING. THE 8100 DOLLARS WAS CREDITED TO THE ACCOUNT ON THE 28TH OF JULY.

5. RE JOE'S ATTENDANCE AT RFE/RL PROGRAM REVIEW, YOU WILL BE GETTING A REGULAR CABLE TO EE POSTS OUTLINING PROGRAM, SCHEDULE, ISSUES AND PARTICIPANTS. JOE SHOULD TRY TO ARRIVE ON SUNDAY AUGUST 29. SINCE THE GROUP ATTENDING WILL BE LARGE AND DIVERSE, THERE WILL NOT BE MUCH OCCASION FOR AIRING PROBLEMS WITH RL STAFF. THE BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING IS, HOWEVER, ARRANGING SMALLER, LESS FORMAL MEETINGS AND LUNCHEONS AT END OF MAIN MEETING SO THAT STATE DEPT. PEOPLE CAN DISCUSS THEIR VIEWS IN A MORE FRANK AND OPEN WAY. FOR JOE'S PREPARATION, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT HE GET SOME OPINION FROM LOCAL PEOPLE ON RL BROADCASTS AND PERHAPS GO OUT TO THE DACHA TO LISTEN FOR A WHILE IF HE HAS THE CHANCE. IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF HE COULD PROVIDE SOME VIEWS ON THE PERCEPTIONS OF RL FROM MOSCOW, E.G. DOES IT SOUND TOO MUCH LIKE "PROPAGANDA" IN SOVIET STYLE AND THEREFORE LOSE CREDIBILITY; IN VIEW OF JAMMING AND LOW AUDIBILITY IN SOME PLACES IS LANGUAGE CLEAR AND SIMPLE ENOUGH TO IMPART MEANING EVEN WHEN EVERY WORD IS NOT HEARD; HOW POPULAR IS PROGRAMMING DEVOTED TO THE READING OF SAMIZDAT (WE ASSUME HIGH POPULARITY); DOES IT HAVE A CARPING, NEGATIVE TONE WHICH COULD AFFECT LISTENERS ADVERSELY? JACK HAS SOME SPECIFIC IDEAS ABOUT HOW BEST TO HANDLE SUCH SUGGESTIONS TO RL, AND JOE SHOULD TRY TO TALK WITH HIM BEFOREHAND.

6. KENDALL'S REVELATIONS (YOUR 13085) WERE STARTLING. I HOPE THAT YOUR USE OF THIS CHANNEL DID NOT SIGNIFY MORE THAN USUAL SENSITIVITY, BECAUSE WE THOUGHT IT NECESSARY TO BRING FACTS TO HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION IN ORDER TO GET GUIDANCE AND HAVE DONE SO. WILL LET YOU KNOW OUTCOME. HABIB

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